UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/808
S/1995/1016
7 December 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 55
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 5 December 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 5 December 1995, addressed to you by H.E. Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Permanent Representative

95-39257 (E) 071295 081295

/...

Annex

Letter dated 5 December 1995 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated, respectively, 12 and 21 November 1995, addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contain allegations regarding "violations of the airspace of the Republic" (A/50/761-S/1995/962 and A/50/773-S/1995/976).

Like all previous similar allegations by the Greek Cypriot administration, those contained in the said letters are totally baseless and, hence, are rejected in toto. As these charges have been amply refuted in my previous communications addressed to you on this subject, most recently in my letter dated 16 November 1995 (A/50/762-S/1995/963), I will once again confine myself to reiterating that flights within the airspace of Northern Cyprus are with the full knowledge and the consent of the appropriate authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, over which the Greek Cypriot usurpers of the seat of government have no jurisdiction or right of say.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind the Greek Cypriot side that Turkey's legal right to protect and defend the Turkish Cypriot people in the face of the rising threat posed by the fervent militarization campaign in the South in the context of the "joint defence doctrine" with Greece and its right to prevent the absorption of Cyprus by that country emanate from the Treaty of Guarantee of 1960. This threat has assumed a new dimension with the flight of Greek fighter aircraft over Cyprus, as part of the recent military exercises code-named "Nikiforos 95", held in conjunction with a nautical and air force exercise (Toxotis-3) by Greece in the eastern Aegean and the Greek Cypriot administration's undertaking to build an air force and navy base for Greece in the South. In view of these ominous developments, the vital importance of Turkey's effective guarantee becomes all the more obvious.

It is indeed an irony not untypical of the Greek Cypriot side to complain about "airspace violations", on the one hand, and to bring in Greek fighter planes to Cyprus and undertake to build an air force and navy base for Greece in Southern Cyprus, on the other. It is no less ironic that the Greek Cypriot side, which is responsible for the recent abduction and subsequent torture of a Turkish Cypriot named Erkan Eğmez, whose plight I had brought to your attention in my letter dated 17 November 1995 (A/50/772), raises allegations in the first of its above-mentioned letters about a Greek Cypriot who was arrested and detained for illegal entry into the North. I wish to remind the Greek Cypriot side that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is a country of laws and that its territory cannot be violated with impunity. Those who do so will naturally face the legal consequences of their violations. It should be mentioned in this connection that the Greek Cypriot in question, Georgios Karotsakis, having gone through the legal process, was released unharmed to the authorities of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus and returned to the Greek Cypriot side on 4 December 1995.

The stark contrast between the forceful abduction and subsequent torture of a Turkish Cypriot by the Greek Cypriot police and the humane manner in which the above-mentioned Greek Cypriot offender was treated by the Turkish Cypriot authorities, fully in accordance with the legal procedures, illustrates which side in Cyprus respects human rights and the rule of law and which side is responsible for gross violations.

You will appreciate that the negative mentality displayed by the Greek Cypriot side, as is manifest from the instances mentioned above, cannot form the basis of any confidence-building or a just and lasting solution in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus